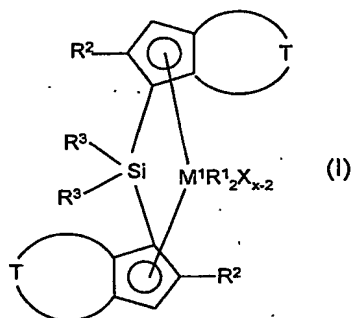
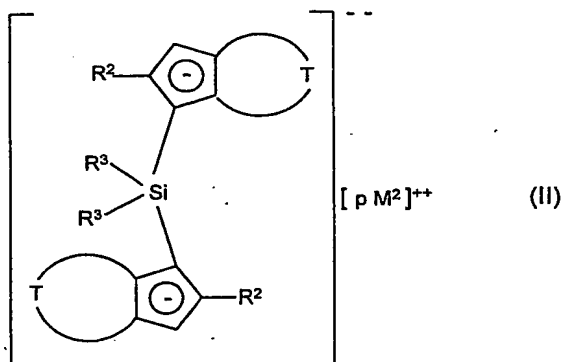


We claim:

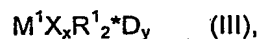
1. A process for the racemoselective preparation of silicon-bridged dialkyl-ansa-metallocenes of the formula (I)



which comprises reacting a ligand starting compound of the formula (II)



with a transition metal dialkyl compound of the formula (III)



where

M^1 is an element of group 4, 5 or 6 of the Periodic Table of the Elements,

R^1 are identical C_1 - C_{20} -alkyl or C_7 - C_{40} -arylalkyl radicals,

X are identical or different halogens,

R^2 are identical or different C_1 - C_{40} radicals,

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R^3 are identical or different C_1 - C_{40} radicals,

T is a divalent C_1 - C_{40} group which together with the cyclopentadienyl ring forms a further saturated or unsaturated ring system which has a ring size of from 5 to 12 atoms, where T may contain the heteroatoms Si, Ge, N, P, O or S in the ring system fused onto the cyclopentadienyl ring,

M^2 is Li, Na, K, MgCl, MgBr, MgI, Mg or Ca,

D is an uncharged Lewis base ligand,

x is equal to the oxidation number of M^1 minus 2,

y is from 0 to 2

and

p is 1 in the case of doubly positively charged metal ions or 2 in the case of singly positively charged metal ions or metal ion fragments.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein

T is a 1,3-butadiene-1,4-diyl group which may be unsubstituted or be substituted by from 1 to 4 radicals R^4 , where the two 1,3-butadiene-1,4-diyl groups may be different,

R^4 are identical or different C_1 - C_{20} radicals,

M^1 is titanium, zirconium or hafnium,

R^1 are identical C_1 - C_5 -alkyl or C_7 - C_{20} -arylalkyl radicals,

X is halogen and

R^2 , R^3 , M^2 , D , p , x and y are as defined in claim 1.

3. A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the transition metal dialkyl compound of the formula (III) is produced at above -30°C by combining a compound M^1X_{x+2} with from 2 to 2.5 equivalents of a compound R^1M^3 in the presence of a ligand compound D , where

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M^3 is Li^+ , Na^+ , K^+ , $MgCl^+$, $MgBr^+$, MgI^+ , $\frac{1}{2} [Mg^{++}]$ or $\frac{1}{2} [Zn^{++}]$, and

the other variables are as defined in claim 1 or 2.

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4. A process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the ligand starting compound of the formula (II) or (V) is combined with the transition metal dialkyl compound of the formula (III) at above $-30^\circ C$.

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5. A process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reaction mixture is maintained at from $30^\circ C$ to $150^\circ C$ for a period of at least 10 minutes after the reaction components have been combined.

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6. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the reaction is carried out in an organic solvent or solvent mixture which comprises at least 10% by volume of an ether.

7. A process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the racemoselectivity = (proportion of rac - proportion of meso)/(proportion of rac + proportion of meso) is greater than zero.

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8. The use of a transition metal dialkyl compound of the formula (III) for the racemoselective preparation of silicon-bridged dialkyl-ansa-metallocenes of the formula (I).

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